

**Reading reward***Elementary school students earn skating party*

Page 11

Fort Riley Post

**Troopers trounced***Junction City Wildcats scratch out three wins in four games*

Page 15

Friday, February 4, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 48, No. 5

Around The Army**Japan:**

The Pacific Stars and Stripes reported Feb. 3 that a new housing policy makes it tougher for enlisted families to live off Misawa Air Base.

The policy is aimed at boosting occupancy rates of on-base housing to at least 98 percent.

Now, any family qualifying for junior noncommissioned housing (typically E-1 to E-6) who moved to Misawa after Dec. 30 must live on base if housing officials can find them a unit within 30 days.

Also, routine requests to vacate military family housing to live off base will be denied, the new policy states.

For more about this story and other U.S. military news in the Pacific and European theaters, visit estripes.com on the Web.

Fort Knox:

The Turret reported Jan. 27 that the high school's nationally recognized Jr. ROTC program continues to be an excellent program. Jr. ROTC has been an elective course at the high school since 1973 and this year enrolled 170 students, about one-third of the school's student population.

The Jr. ROTC battalion is commanded by Cadet Lt. Col. Holly Fagan. "This year the staff has worked especially hard to get things done. Company staff and cadets are also cooperating greatly in achieving a common goal - instilling leadership qualities in all of our cadets and in helping in our community," she said.

For more about this story and other Fort Knox news, visit www.thenewenterprise.com/turret/ on the Web.

Fort Belvoir:

The Eagle reported Jan. 27 that one of its Soldiers had danced with President Bush at one of the inauguration parties.

Spc. Jazmin Azcona was on leave, lounging around the house and watching television when she got the call from her supervisor.

**Spc. Jazmin Azcona**

who have served, or are in the process of serving in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Azcona was skeptical about her invitation, until she went to work the following week and received an e-mail that stated where she needed to report, and what to wear to the ball.

At the ball held in the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C., the 23-year-old mingled with other servicemembers, but became more anxious as Bush's speech wrapped up and he prepared to announce the formal dance.

Now was the time. She got up from her seat, greeted the president and proceeded to dance with him.

For more on this story and other Fort Belvoir news, visit www.belvoireagle.com/ on the Web.

Pentagon: Pay survivors more

Military leaders, legislators seek increase in paid benefits for war deaths*By Gerry J. Gilmore*
AFPS

WASHINGTON — Pentagon leaders and Capitol Hill legislators want to increase the current available combined government death benefit for families of fallen

servicemembers by about \$250,000.

If enacted, the proposed change essentially would double the \$262,000 now available to families of servicemembers killed in wartime operations, David S.C. Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, said

Feb. 1 during testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee. The issue has been under study for two years.

Senior defense leaders "believe that sum ought to be nearer to \$500,000," Chu told the panel, by increasing the maximum coverage offered by the Servicemembers'

Group Life Insurance program and raising the separate death gratuity payment.

The current survivor's death gratuity payment, which is tax-free, is about \$12,420. Survivors of servicemembers killed in war operations also can now receive \$250,000 in maximum SGLI cov-

erage, if they had elected to do so.

DoD and Senate proposals would increase the death gratuity payment to \$100,000, and boost maximum SGLI coverage to \$400,000. The Pentagon would pay the premiums for the extra

See Benefits, Page 3

Royal time



Post/Blackmon

Byron Shores, also known as the Royals' mascot Sluggerrr, chats with 1st Bde. Soldiers during lunch at the Devil's Den Jan. 28. Sluggerrr and several Royals' members, visited the post as part of their annual promotional caravan.

Kansas City players visit 1st Brigade

By April Blackmon
Staff writer

A caravan carrying Kansas City Royals players visited some Fort Riley Soldiers Jan. 28.

The 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, troops were visited by Royals' pitcher Jeremy Affeldt, catcher John Buck, Royals Hall of Fame member and Wichita Wranglers' Manager Frank White, former outfielder Brian MacRae, broadcaster Ryan Lefebvre and Sluggerrr, the Royals' mascot. Their visit was part of a tour they were making to several Kansas cities during a three-day period.

"This is extremely exciting, for the opportunity to meet pro-

See Royals, Page 3



Post/Blackmon

Spc. Thomas Cannon of Co. B, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., shows Kansas City Royals pitcher Jeremy Affeldt the engine of a Bradley Fighting Vehicle. The baseball players asked to see some of the equipment used by 1st Bde. Soldiers when they go to Iraq.



Post/Blackmon

Col. Bart Howard, 1st Bde. commander, shows off two gift baseballs presented to him by visiting Royals' players.

Soldiers assist in training

48th BCT prepares for Iraq deployment

By James Tamez

24th Infantry Div. (Mech)

Soldiers from 24th Infantry Division (Mech), in conjunction with members of the 4th and 5th Brigades, 87th Division, are assisting the 48th Brigade Combat Team in their mobilization training at Fort Stewart, Ga.

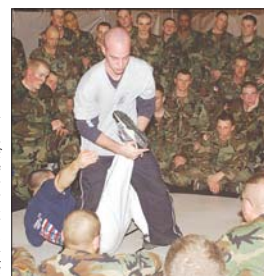
The 48th BCT deploys to Iraq later this year in support of Oper-

ation Iraqi Freedom. It will be the second National Guard brigade of the 24th Inf. Div. to serve in Iraq. "We are responsible for training and readiness oversight for the 48th BCT," said Maj. John Kunder, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) G3 operations officer. "One of our primary responsibilities is the readiness of their personnel for their upcoming mission."

Twenty Soldiers comprise the

24th Inf. Div. (Mech) Forward unit based at Fort Jackson, S.C. When preparing units for deployment, the division's Forward staff is augmented by members of the 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) Headquarters at Fort Riley. During the current Fort Stewart mission, several Soldiers from 1st U.S. Army headquarters at Fort Gillem, Ga., also are rolled up into the Forward

See Training, Page 4



Civilian trainer Garth Spendiff (center, standing) of Coastal Combatives shows Soldiers of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 130th Infantry, how to disable an enemy combatant. This training is part of the 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) effort to prepare 48th BCT Soldiers for deployment to Iraq.

24th Inf. Div./Tamez

See Cleanup, Page 2





Post news in brief

Special Forces briefings slated

Briefings for Soldiers interested in pursuing a career change to the Special Forces will be conducted on post at noon and 5 p.m. Feb. 22 and at 10 a.m., noon and 5 p.m. Feb. 23. Briefings will be conducted in the post retention office.

The Special Forces is seeking qualified Soldiers in grade E-4 to E-6 (some E-3s and E-7s are eligible) and first lieutenants and captains in year group 03. For more information, call Special Forces recruiters at (877) 840-8502 or DSN 883-1461.

Charbonneau takes command

Capt. Nicole Charbonneau assumed command of Medical Department Activity's Medical Company in a ceremony Jan. 21 at Fort Riley. She succeeds Capt. Ginnette Ruth, who will be reassigned as a health care recruiter in Louisville, Ky.

Charbonneau, a registered dietitian, has been assigned to Irwin Army Community Hospital since 2002.

"As company commander, ... my top three priorities are education, personal well-being and community service. I want the Soldiers to leave here having accomplished more than they could have ever imagined."

Family training scheduled

Family Readiness Group Point of Contact training is scheduled from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Feb. 10. FRG Leader Basic Training is scheduled from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Feb. 24.

FRG Leader Basic Training covers the responsibilities of an FRG leader, the goals of an

FRG, supporting the military mission, effective ways of communicating with family members, the importance of distributing accurate information and maintaining confidentiality, volunteer positions and opportunities within the FRG and more. The training is primarily for newly appointed FRG Leaders, but anyone in the FRG may attend.

POC training covers the role, responsibilities and expectations of a POC leader.

The session also will cover the importance of communicating with family members, distributing accurate information and maintaining confidentiality.

All classes will be held at the Soldier and Family Support Center.

Free childcare will be available; parents must bring their child's shot records.

To register for the classes and childcare, call 239-9435.

Recruiter teams seek recruiters

A Recruit-the-Recruiter team will brief Soldiers interested in switching to recruiter duty at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. March 29 and March 30 at the Post Retention Office.

Soldiers who serve as recruiters earn the Recruiter Badge and sergeants and staff sergeants in a promotable status who earn the Recruiter Ring during their 36-month tour are eligible for meritorious promotions.

Recruiters also receive \$450 per month in Special Duty Pay upon assignment.

The briefings at Fort Riley will cover the duties, challenges, benefits and opportunities of recruiter duty.

Attending the briefing in no way obligates the Soldier for recruiting duty. A voluntary personal interview following the briefing will determine if a Soldier is qualified.

For more information about recruiting duty, visit www.usarec.army.mil/hq/recruit or on the Web or call (502) 626-0105 or DSN: 536-0105.

For information regarding the Fort Riley briefings, contact the Post Retention Office at 856-4215.



DES Photo

Post environmental staff members, environmental regulators and industrial representatives watch as a specially equipped excavator sprays and mixes a chemical into soil at Fort Riley contaminated with chlorinated solvents many years ago.

Cleanup

continued from page 1

some form so that others working in the restoration field may learn from it, he said.

Representatives of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the National Land Trust, the Nature Conservancy, the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive and regulators from Colorado, Maryland and Missouri served as judges.

Fort Riley's projects included the pilot project to clean up the chlorinated solvent that had been dumped or spilled into the ground at an old graveled motor pool and artillery gun shed area near Building 367.

The process used a newly developed tool mounted on the arm of a tracked excavator to mix a chemical with the contaminated soil to oxidize the chlorine.

The process cost less than several other processes usually recommended to clean up such contamination, said Richard Shields, a geologist and the project manager.

He estimated a savings of about \$1.75 million resulting from choosing the pilot study

process instead of opting for using other available technology.

The treatment reduced the concentration of contaminant by 91 percent within three weeks.

The effectiveness of the process prompted regulators to agree to Fort Riley's plan to reduce required monitoring from 38 wells sampled two times each year to 16 wells sampled once each year — an estimated savings of \$2.5 million over 15 years.

Pilot project

Used a tool designed and built by the Lang Tool Company of Beaverton, Mich.

The tool uses a toothed drum on the end of an excavator's arm.

The chemical is applied to the area where the drum is digging and churning the soil in a contaminated area.

The project began the first week of March 2004.

Untampered asphalt 8 inches thick over the motor pool "hot spot" was removed from a 40-foot by 70-foot area adjacent to Building 367.

The tool arrived on site the second week of March 2004. For the next week, 13,000 pounds of potassium permanganate was added to about 22,000 gallons of water as it was mixed into the soil with the boom moving back and forth and to a depth of 10 feet.

landfill in the Camp Forsyth area along the nature walk.

Several pieces of unexploded ordnance were found and the EOD specialists disposed of the items.

All items were found in sand bars near the baffles but no items were found downstream, which indicated the baffles were preventing them from continuing to move from the closed landfill area, according to the post's entry document for the annual awards.

IRP staff also work to ensure normal use of ordnance, as well as disposal of unexploded ordnance on Fort Riley does not contaminate the post's training areas. To date, no negative impact to the environment has been noted, the entry document stated.

Cooperation between post environment staff and environmental regulators added significantly to Fort Riley's savings during the past two years, Phillips said.

The willingness of both sides to work together to determine ways for "getting clean and getting projects done" quickly helped Fort Riley save millions of dollars in the costs of cleaning up contamination, he said.



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Post news in brief

Fund custodian class offered

Family Readiness Group fund custodian training is scheduled for 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Feb. 17 at the Soldier and Family Support Center. The class will cover basic instruction on maintaining FRG fund records, fund-raising regulations and the appropriate uses of FRG funds.

All FRG fund custodians should attend the class and FRG leaders and commanders are encouraged to attend.

Registration is required and free childcare is available with reservations. Parents must bring the child's shot records.

For more information or to register for the class, call Sonya Brown, Family Readiness Center coordinator at 239-9435.

Program's open seasons to end

Public Law 108-469, which was signed into law Dec. 21, 2004, eliminates the Thrift Savings Plan open seasons and the restrictions on contribution elections which are tied to open seasons.

The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board will implement this law on July 1, 2005. After the close of the current TSP open season (Dec. 31, 2004), there will be one more open season, April 15 through June 30, 2005. This means that participants may file contribution elections with their agencies or uniformed services at any time beginning April 15.

Through June 30, these elections will be processed under the current rules. Beginning July 1, contribution elections will be processed under the new rules - that is, the elections must be made effective no later than the first full pay period after they are filed.

Participants must continue to file contribution elections with their agencies or services, and the agencies and services must continue to implement the elec-

tions by deducting contributions from participants' pay and reporting these amounts to the Thrift Savings Plan each pay period.

The law does not affect the waiting period new employees covered by the Federal Employees' Retirement System must serve before they become eligible for agency contributions to their accounts.

Toastmasters seek members

Anyone wanting to overcome the fear of public speaking or to sharpen your leadership skills, a new club called O'Bill's Toastmasters may help.

This new club seeks members from the Fort Riley community and the Junction City area.

For more information about O'Bill's meeting times and locations in local area, call Jim Hill at 761-1130. For more information about Toastmasters International, visit www.toastmasters.org on the Web.

Job fair expects 20 employers

The Army Career & Alumni Program Center at Fort Riley will host a job fair from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 11 in Room 7 of Building 210.

As many as 20 employers are expected to be present to visit with Soldiers and families to discuss available career opportunities.

Resumes are not required. Professional ACAP counselors are available to discuss questions about a successful job search. Even if a Soldier is thinking that a job is waiting at home or available through a headhunter, there might be an even better opportunity here that should not be missed.

For more information on employers scheduled to attend, visit the ACAP Center or call 239-2278 or 239-2248.

Royals

continued from page 1

fessional baseball players," said Col. Bart Howard, 1st Brigade commander. "What's interesting to me is the players are just as excited to meet us as we are them. They are very supportive in what we are doing in this operation in Iraq, and it meant a lot today for our Soldiers to see them and know that the American people are behind them."

After a briefing on the history of the "Big Red One," the brigade's major command, the Royals and the Soldiers began chatting about everything from sports to the war in Iraq.

"I've not been a real big baseball follower, but it's been real nice to see what they do and talk to them about what they get to do in the off time," said Staff Sgt. Daniel Rosenberry of Company B, 101st Forward Support Battalion. "I think it was awesome to take time out of their schedule to be able to come down here with the nobodies of the world."

Rosenberry talked about the team's contributions to the Soldiers in Iraq and how much he and his fellow troops appreciated the gifts.

"The Kansas City Royals and

other teams or individuals would send a box of baseball gear. ... When the Soldiers would get that, for the times that we did have to do some relaxing, it was nice to have that kind of gear shipped to us. ... It means a lot to the Soldiers over there," he said.

Conversations continued through the lunch hour, when the Royals were taken to the Devil's Den to eat.

"They were excited about asking questions from anything of 'What's it like in Iraq?' to 'What do you eat for dinner there?' to 'What's our typical day like?'" Howard said.

Following lunch, the Royals were taken to the motor pool belonging to 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, where they looked at and climbed around on a Bradley Fighting Vehicle.

Visiting military personnel and the post was especially interesting to Affeldt, who said he grew up in the Air Force.

"It's very exciting to come here and hang out with these guys," he said.

"I'm honored that we've been invited here. ... It gives us a great sense of pride," White said.



Royals Hall of Fame member and Wichita Wranglers Manager Frank White signs an autograph for Spc. Benjamin Rodriguez of Co. C, 1st Eng. Bn.

Post/
Blackmon

Benefits

continued from page 1

\$150,000 in SGL coverage when participating servicemembers are deployed in a combat zone.

A plan under discussion, if approved by Congress and the president, would be retroactive to Oct. 7, 2001, the day Operation Enduring Freedom began in Afghanistan.

The U.S. government "already provides a significant set of programs to help the families of those who give their lives in service to the country," Chu said. Current compensation programs now

available to surviving spouses with children, he added, approximately provide "dollar-for-dollar, what the military member was earning on active service."

DoD also provides transitional housing assistance for surviving spouses and children, Chu said, as well as access to the TRICARE health system and commissary and exchange systems, and surviving spouse and children's education benefits.

The proposed increase in survivor's monetary benefits would

also provide "greater recognition" of the sacrifices America's servicemembers have made during the global war on terrorism, noted Sen. John Warner of Virginia, chairman of the SASC.

DoD officials reported Feb. 1 that 1,415 Americans have died in Iraq and 156 others died in Afghanistan and other wartime theaters during the global war on terror.

During the hearing, some Senate members noted that survivors of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist

attacks were paid an average of \$2 million per family.

The proposed changes to GI death benefits for survivors wouldn't apply to families of servicemembers killed during those terrorist attacks.

"There is nothing in the financial sense," Chu pointed out, "that we can do to replace a lost servicemember." Yet, the government can provide "the appropriate financial tools," he noted, to comfort surviving spouses and families so they can go forward.

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Post news in brief

Directorate staff slates training

Following are training classes scheduled by the Directorate of Environment and Safety during February:

Environmental Team Training: Environmental Team training certifies environmental team leaders and members in how to handle hazardous materials and waste handling and spill responses at the unit level. Leaders and team members must attend this course within 60 days of appointment to their duties.

Class begins at 9 a.m. each day, Feb. 14-15, in Room 6 of Building 407. The course lasts two days.

Environmental Team Training Refresher: Annual refresher to the Environmental Team Training.

Class starts at 9 a.m. Feb. 23 in Room 6 of Building 407. The class lasts 2 1/2 hours.

Battery Hazard Awareness Training (Code Name Lithium): The Code Name Lithium course is designed for key personnel who in their course of duty receive, store, issue and then transport lithium batteries for disposal. This course includes training on the characteristics and hazards associated with the various types of lithium batteries used on Fort Riley. This course also includes training on health, safety and personal protective equipment. This class is highly recommended by the Communications and Electronics Command.

Class starts at 10 a.m. every Wednesday in February in Building 1930 at Camp Funston. Duration: 1 hour

For more information or to enroll in a class, call 239-0446 or check with the battalion schools noncommissioned officer.

Program offers team building

Four Army Family Team Building classes will be offered at the Armed Services YMCA, 111 E. 16th St., Junction City, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 4. Those classes will be "Family and Military Expectations," "Impact of the Mission on the Family Life," Basic Problem Solving and "Supporting Your Child's Education."

For more information about Family Team Building classes at the ASYMCA and the Soldier and Family Support Center, call the Soldier and Family Support Center at 239-9435.

Army seeks new warrants

The U.S. Army is looking for highly motivated Soldiers, Marines, Sailors and Airman to fill its warrant officer ranks. Positions are open in all 45 specialties. Applicants with less than 12 years active federal service are encouraged to apply.

For more information and all forms and documents required, visit www.usarec.army.mil/warrant on the Web.

Training

continued from page 1

staff, making more than 60 Soldiers and one civilian tasked with overseeing the training and preparation of the 48th BCT's 3,700 Soldiers.

"The 48th BCT is going into combat, and it is our job to make sure they are manned, equipped and trained for their mission," said Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Frantz, G3 operations noncommissioned officer, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech).

Kundel said preparing the 48th BCT for deployment to Iraq is an important task and the 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) is well-qualified to accomplish this mission. This is not the first such unit the 24th has prepared for deployment, Frantz said. "We have overseen the mobilization training of the 30th BCT (of the 24th Inf. Div.), 278th BCT and the 155th BCT," Frantz said. "We are well-versed in the requirements necessary for a brigade to deploy."

"One of our primary responsibilities is to make sure that personnel and equipment are taken care of," Kundel said. "Sometimes in the news you see reports of (units) being understaffed and (Soldiers) not having the proper equipment. We are here to make sure that doesn't happen."

Kundel said the best way to ensure the 48th BCT is ready to go to Iraq is to make sure they receive everything they need to successfully complete their mission.

Frantz said the training the 48th BCT receives follows a specific order to ensure that all of the Soldiers understand their responsibilities to themselves and their units. He said the process begins with individual training and then progresses through squad, platoon, company, battalion and



Staff Sgt. Steven Thomas, 4th Bde., 87th Div. (TS), instructs Soldiers of IIIIC, 1st Bn., 108th Armor, in the proper use of Mission Oriented Protective Posture (nuclear, biological and chemical) gear during training at Fort Stewart, Ga. Members of the 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) are working with members of the 87th Div. to train members of the 48th BCT preparing to deploy to Iraq.

24th Inf. Div./Tamez

deploy," he said.

Each section in 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) performs unique and important functions that aid in the overall effort of preparing the 48th BCT for deployment to Iraq, Kundel said.

"The 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) ensures effective training for the 48th BCT so that they are prepared for deployment," said Master Sgt. Charles Goforth, the division's forward G4 support NCO. "G4 provides oversight and guidance on logistics, transportation, food services and automation for the 48th BCT. We provide tracking in each of these areas and help prepare the S4 from the 48th BCT for deployment," he said.

"G1 personnel maintain a daily account of the number of Soldiers conducting training with the 48th BCT," said Staff Sgt. Hector Acosta, of the division's G1 staff. Acosta said it is G1's responsibility to ensure that the correct number of Soldiers is receiving training and to keep a count of the number of Soldiers that are failing to meet the standards necessary to deploy.

Frantz said members of the G3 section travel to the different training sites, observe the quality and intensity of the training being conducted and report their findings so that any adjustments that need to be made will be made.

Other sections helping to prepare the 48th BCT for their mission in Iraq include G2 (Intelligence and Physical Security), G6 (Electronics and Communication), G8 (Resource Management), Staff Judge Advocate, Surgeon, Safety, Chaplain, Public Affairs, SGS/Protocol and a command element.

brigade-level training.

The individual training includes common task training and weapons qualification. Once the Soldiers are conducting their training in groups, they train for urban operations, movement to contact and improvised explosive device recognition.

Frantz said the 48th BCT also is participating in Theater Specific Individual Readiness Training, which includes classes on Iraqi customs.

"We want to make sure the Soldiers of the 48th BCT get the

proper training and equipment," Frantz said.

"This includes familiarizing them with things that have been experienced by other Soldiers in Iraq. In fact, we have to immerse the Soldiers into theater throughout their training. By doing that, we give them the opportunity to accomplish training tasks numerous times. The more repetitions Soldiers perform, the better they are trained. Eventually, their actions become natural. When that happens, we have been successful, and they are ready to

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Commentary

Friday, February 4, 2005

Fort Riley Post

Page 5

Riley Roundtable

This week's question:

If you could improve available recreation facilities on post or add one new form of recreation on post, what would you do?



"I think the music or art program at the Teen Center could be improved. I also want the movies open every day."

Beatrice Bacon
Military Spouse
Home: Germany



"I would improve the programs at the Teen Center. They need something to keep them out of trouble."

Sheri L. Carbaugh
Manager
Fort Riley National Bank
PX Branch
Home: Thurmont, Md.



"I would change the craft center hours. The scrapbooking is available only 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday. I go to Kansas City every weekend, so I miss it."

Spe. Misty M. McWilliams
Communications Operator
331st Signal Company
Home: Kansas City, Mo.



"There are many small parks in the housing areas, but no one goes there because there is no shaded place for parents to sit and watch the kids. They need benches. I think a large family park would be good, also."

Chong Min
Bank Supervisor
Fort Riley National Bank
PX Branch
Home: Korea



"For kids here, I'd like to see a recreation center like in Junction City with computers, ball games and anything else to help them stay busy."

Debra A. Pugh
Cashier, AAFES Cinnabon
Home: Steele, Mo.

Next week's question:

If you were the garrison commander, what would you do to improve Fort Riley?

Opinions may be e-mailed to the editor at mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil or faxed to the editor at 239-2592. Opinions must reach the editor by close of business Tuesdays to appear in the following Friday's paper.

By Larry D. Caldwell
Division Senior EO Advisor

Last month we celebrated the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr., a man whose dream and vision put our country on the path to diversity equality. Diversity equality is when all people regardless of their race, color, nationality, gender or religious beliefs are treated equal based on their performances, rather than discriminated against or harassed.

The dream of Martin Luther King Jr. set us on that path by the adoption of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. We have progressed and we continue to progress.

Some, however, believe that Affirmative Action Plans are not necessary and that equal opportunity should not be a priority any longer. These are the ones that will cause us as a nation to regress, rather than progress.



Larry Caldwell

If you believe that we are where we ought to be, check it out. When you are out in the community, watching television or visiting with family and friends, consciously hear what you hear, see what you see and notice what you notice. You might be surprised.

The Martin Luther King Jr. observance Jan. 13 kicked off Fort Riley's annual equal opportunity observance schedule. The EO staff conducts eight observances each year to promote awareness about the different ethnic groups and to recognize the achievements and contributions of women. Our next observance

will be the African American/Black History Month Observance from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Feb. 16 at Riley's Conference Center. This observance is free, open to the public and will include a performance by the 101st Forward Support Battalion Choir; speaker notes by Albert Curly, one of the historic Buffalo Soldiers; and food sampling provided by Riley's Conference Center.

This year's African American/Black History Month theme is: "The Niagara Movement."

In 1905, 59 black men from 17 states called for a meeting in Buffalo, N.Y., to discuss the need to organize intellectual blacks to move their race forward. Due to financial problems, only 29 men from 14 states attended.

The Niagara Movement called for the following principles:

- Freedom of speech and criticism.
- An unfettered and unsubsidi-

dized press,

- Manhood suffrage.
- The abolition of all distinctions based simply on race and color.
- The recognition of the principle of human brotherhood as a practical present creed.
- The recognition of the highest and best human training as the monopoly of no class or race.
- The belief in dignity of labor, and

• A united effort to realize these ideas under wise and courageous leadership.

The first meeting was held openly in 1906 at the site of the John Brown raid in Harpers' Ferry, W.Va. By 1907 and 1908, the movement lost steam but led to the creation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. One of the prominent members of this movement was W.E.B. Dubois, who later became the first president of the NAACP.

Equal Opportunity

Month emphasizes equality in diversity

Educational vision

Forum unites leaders on important goal

By Federico J. Rodriguez
Director, Ed Services

A dynamic Leader's Educational Forum was conducted Jan. 25 at Riley's Conference Center on post. The audience was the senior noncommissioned officer leadership of the command. Assisting Fort Riley's Education Services in spearheading this leadership event were 24th Infantry Division (Mech) Command Sgt. Maj. Gilbert Canuela and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. James Noble.

The order of events included an overall familiarization of programs offered by Education Services, to include Student Services and Academic Programs.

Roundtable discussion followed with specific questions guiding the exchange of dialogue among the participants. Representatives from each of the roundtable discussion groups then shared their findings with everyone in a free-flow exchange



Federico Rodriguez

of ideas. Displays from the members of the Fort Riley Consortium of Colleges and Universities added greatly to the scholastic enrichment of this academic venue.

Participants in the event felt a synergism and an excitement for learning in an educational environment that embraced all Soldiers - the heart and soul of the Army. They learned about the vision of Education Services, a vision supported by the secretary of the Army and chief of staff of the Army.

Vision is not seeing things as they are, but as they will be. The attendees discussed and agreed that Fort Riley should become

the hub, the center, for teaching and learning.

No enthusiastic was the crowd that no one left the site until an hour and a half after the conclusion of the forum. Everyone felt they were part of this initiative, supported it and as a result were empowered.

As Canuela so eloquently stated in his closing remarks, "We must all be committed to a larger vision and ensure that we carry

out what we envisioned here today ... When you allow Soldiers to go to school, you lose them for the time they are in school. If you don't allow them

to go to school, you will lose them permanently."

Reflections and lessons learned will be disseminated soon and will be shared throughout the nationwide Army Continuing Education System. Lessons learned will serve to enhance the educational strategic plan of the command for promoting educational opportunities for all Soldiers and their families.

Moreover, this information will serve for bringing the entire community together as we focus on developing educated student-Soldiers for the 21st century at Fort Riley.

Grunt By Wayne Udden



FORT RILEY POST

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How does the Post rate?

	Poor	Fair	Good
Interesting articles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Valuable information	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mix of unit, community news	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Your opinion is important to the Post editor and staff. Please take a moment to tell us how well we are doing our job of keeping you informed about what is happening at Fort Riley. Fax the form to (785) 239-2592 or clip and mail this form to Editor, Public Affairs Office, Building 405, Fort Riley, KS 66442, or drop the form at building 405. You may also send your opinions to the staff by e-mail at mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil.

What are your concerns or suggestions for improvement?

Your name (optional) and phone number (if you would like to talk about your ideas): _____



Suicide – Teens, young adults most at risk

Fort Riley leadership combats destructive threat with intervention training program

By Jamie Bender

19th PAD

Suicide is the eighth leading cause of death for all Americans and the third leading cause of death for young people aged 15 to 24, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

Because so many of its Soldiers and family members fall into that age category, and because deployments in support of the Global War on Terrorism has increased individual and family stress, Fort Riley officials decided more than a year ago to do something to combat conditions that might lead to suicide on post.

One way to do that: Instituting a suicide-intervention training program – Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training – to help identify those who might be considering suicide as an option to escape stresses that seem overwhelming to them.

The five-day, train-the-trainer workshop is designed to help communities prevent suicide.

“ASIST is like CPR for someone who has a heart attack,” said Nicole Sizemore, who works with Soldier Risk Readiness at Fort Riley. “It teaches people what to say. ... In the past, people may have been afraid to ask a question like, ‘Are you going to commit suicide?’”

As of early December, Fort Riley had seven certified ASIST trainers who had attended the five-day course. ASIST “Gatekeeper” training lasts two days and Sizemore said almost 200 people on post have been trained as “Gatekeepers.” They now know it’s OK to ask the question, she said.

During the workshop, participants are encouraged to examine their thoughts and feelings about suicide.

“A really important part of the class is that it allows you to

About series

This is the third article in a three-part series about the potential for suicide taking place on Fort Riley and the efforts being made to reduce those incidences. This first story appeared in the Jan. 21 issue of the Post and dealt with a statistical rise in suicide ideations. The second story appeared in the Jan. 28 issue of the Post and dealt with available treatment for Soldiers and family members professionals deem to be a suicide threat. This story explains how special training available to certain people at Fort Riley can help leaders reduce actual suicides.

Treatment for family members

- *Should a spouse or family member of a Fort Riley Soldier living on post seek treatment through Irwin Army Community Hospital’s Behavioral Medicine (Community Mental Health) or emergency department or through Army One Source, they will be referred, if the need is found, to a civilian hospital.*
- *Should the spouse or family member live off-post and goes to a civilian emergency department or seeks care with a civilian provider (network sources), the first seven visits are covered without requiring referral.*
- *Should a spouse or family member attempt suicide and goes to either IACH’s emergency department or a civilian one, depending again on where they live, they will be referred to a civilian hospital for inpatient care).*
- *Those who go to the IACH emergency department will be evaluated by the Community Mental Health staff before being admitted to a civilian hospital. TRICARE will cover costs.*

Source: IACH Public Affairs

understand your own attitudes and beliefs about suicide and how it could interfere with you helping someone,” Sizemore said. “For

two days they get to say that they think it’s wrong. They get to work through these issues so that they can leave with the ability to help someone because they are in touch with their own thoughts and feelings pertaining to suicide.”

The more understanding a person has about suicide, the more comfortable that person is in asking about it. If you come to the attitude one demonstrating the attitude

that suicide is a terrible thing, they are less likely to talk to you about it, she explained.

“Even no attitude is an attitude,” said Ted Freeman of prevention services on post. “Everyone has an attitude. It’s just being aware of what that attitude is. It can be helpful or counterproductive.”

“It’s about moving someone from subjectivity to objectivity on a person’s issues,” agreed Santos Bonilla, Family Advocacy Program manager. “It’s not about you, it’s about them.”

Want help?

If you or a “battle buddy,” family member or friend is having suicidal thoughts or might be a high-risk candidate to contemplate suicide, do something to help.

On post, call:

- *The military police – 239-6767*
- *Irwin Army Community Hospital emergency services – 239-7777 or 239-7778*
- *Social Work Service – 239-7291*
- *Chaplain Help Line – 239-4357*
- *Your unit commander, command sergeant major or first sergeant*

Off post, call:

- *911 for local law and health authorities*
- *Crisis Center Hotline – (800) 727-2785*
- *Army One Source – (800) 464-8107*

Possible suicide indicators

Actions:

- *Giving away possessions*
- *Withdrawal from family, friends, school or work*
- *Loss of interest in hobbies*
- *Abuse of alcohol or drugs*
- *Reckless behavior*
- *Extreme behavior changes*
- *Impulsivity*
- *Self-mutilation*

Feelings:

- *Desperation*
- *Anger*
- *Guilt*
- *Worthlessness*
- *Loneliness*
- *Sadness*
- *Hopelessness*
- *Helplessness*

Physical:

- *Lack of interest in appearance*
- *Change/loss in sex interest*
- *Disturbed sleep*
- *Change/loss of appetite, weight*
- *Physical health complaints*

Thoughts:

- *“All of my problems will end soon.”*
- *“No one can do anything to help me now.”*
- *“Now I know what they were going through.”*
- *“I just can’t take it any more.”*
- *“I wish I were dead.”*
- *“Everyone will be better off without me.”*
- *“I won’t be needing these things anymore.”*
- *“I can’t do anything right.”*
- *“I just can’t keep my thoughts straight anymore.”*

For Fort Riley, the classes have helped to open lines of communication between the command and the clinicians, said Bill Powers, Soldier and Family Support Center chief.

“One of the things that has improved significantly since more focus and learning has been put to this issue has been the enhanced communication between the clinical staff and the commanders,” he said. “It was discovered that there was a breakdown in communication. It wasn’t intentional; it was just a systemic issue. There has

been a lot of work to enhance communication now.”

“Now you have someone in (a) unit who is going to follow up after the Soldier has seen by the clinician to see if everything is OK or if they need to go back,” Sizemore added. “Before there was really no one to do that.”

The ASIST program is one of many services available for Soldiers at the Soldier and Family Support Center. The programs are designed to increase Soldier readiness. “Readiness is not just about the Soldier himself, it’s

about the entire family,” Freeman said. “If a Soldier has a family member that is considering suicide, they are not interested in deploying. An otherwise good Soldier may then become a problem.”

“A Soldier will wonder ‘If my spouse is going to do this while I’m here, what’s going to happen if I leave?’ There is the fear that the spouse might complete the act if they leave,” Sizemore said. “Then he is not concentrating on his mission and that might cost him his life.”

Returning troops face adjustment

AFPS

WASHINGTON – The Defense Department’s senior medical adviser said that troops redeployed from combat zones should suffer no stigma for seeking help for emotional problems.

Some troops who’ve returned from duty tours in Afghanistan or Iraq are experiencing symptoms associated with post-traumatic stress disorder, said Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, Jan. 26.

If PTSD symptoms aren’t identified and dealt with early on, he explained, more significant problems could develop. Some “people could turn to alcohol or other things to try to drive away some of the uncomfortable feelings.”

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LACH/Clark

Capt. Jennifer Fenti, Irwin Army Community Hospital's community health nurse, conducts a self-care health class for Soldiers of the 1st Engineer Battalion. Soldiers and family members who complete the class are issued a card that allows them to pick up a limited amount of over-the-counter medications to treat common illnesses.

Pharmacies issue self-care grads some drugs without doctor visit

By Jan Clark

LACH

"Self-care is putting prevention into practice and taking personal responsibility for your health," said Capt. Jennifer Fenti, Irwin Army Community Hospital's community health nurse.

"It includes a wide range of health related decision-making skills and care undertaken by individuals on their own behalf," she said.

Fenti is diligent in her efforts to reach all people eligible for the program, including those on active duty, retirees and family members of both. She has taken the program into the trenches with visits to units and battalions throughout post.

During her classes, Fenti discusses the skills needed for health related decision making, health

maintenance, illness prevention, symptom evaluation, self-treatment using common remedies and over-the-counter medications and the use of professional health care services.

Her mission is to educate and thereby increase the health and readiness of the force, save money and reduce training time lost by Soldiers or work time lost by others waiting to receive medical care.

Every Soldier attending the class receives a Soldier Health Maintenance Manual, Technical Guide 272.

Beneficiaries attending the class are given a similar manual titled "Take Care of Yourself" and a "Taking Care of Your Child" self-care guide if they have children under the age of 12.

All participants who complete the class receive an over-the-counter medication card that Sol-

diers can use at the Consolidated Troop Medical Clinic or retirees and family members can use at the hospital pharmacy to obtain over-the-counter medications without having to be seen in the clinic.

Any unit wishing to schedule a class with Fenti may do so by calling Community Health Nursing at 239-7323.

Health care beneficiaries who wish to enroll in the class may do so by calling the Referral Management Service Center at (785) 239-3627. When the call is answered, touchtone phone users should press option 1 for an appointment and then option 5 to make a Preventive Medicine appointment.

Classes are held on from 10 to 11 a.m. the first and third Tuesdays of each month in the Preventive Medicine classroom in the hospital's basement.

Recruiter assist program opens doors for officers

By Tammy M. Jarrett

Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Officers can now share their deployment experiences with their local communities through the Special Recruiter Assistance Program.

As of Jan. 15, officers in CONUS who have served in support of Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom may request 14 days temporary duty at the recruiting station nearest their hometown to participate in SRAP.

"I think this is an excellent opportunity for officers to return to their hometowns to tell them about the positive things the Army is doing in the Global War on Terrorism," said Maj. Mark D. Van Hout, retention officer for the ROTC's Cadet Command. "Many small towns never get the opportunity to hear what their hometown heroes are doing."

Before SRAP, interested officers could participate in the U.S. Army Command Cadet program called Officer Returning Alumni Program, or ORAP. The program, which is completely unfunded, allows an officer to return to his

alma mater on permissive TDY status to share his experiences as an officer, Van Hout said.

"When SRAP came out, we [Cadet Command] thought it would offer our officers more opportunities to return to their schools since, as ORAP is run, an officer would incur out of pocket costs," Van Hout said. "Cadet Command believes this is a good initiative and feels that officers should be allowed to participate and support this effort."

In addition to being a veteran, Van Hout said interested officers must be 28 years old or less, look the part of an Army officer, display a positive image and be articulate and enthusiastic about what they do.

"We only want high quality officers who are recommended by their chain of command, said Van Hout, who conducts the screening process for ROTC graduates. "I speak with the officers to find out what they want to share with their communities and basically make sure they can do what we want them to...tell the Army's story."

Interested ROTC officers must submit their applications directly to Van Hout, at

VanhoutMD@USACC.army.mil. All requests will undergo a screening process, which takes about seven days. Approved officers will be notified via e-mail. Other interested officers should contact the U.S. Army Recruiting Command at

www.usarec.army.mil.

Upon receipt of notification, approved officers must have their requests (DA Form 4187) approved by the first lieutenant colonel in their chain of command and then fax it to (757) 788-6677 or DSN 680-6677. An approved DD Form 1610 will be completed by the USACC program manager and faxed to the officer and the unit personnel section provided on the DA Form 4187.

The OEF/OIF officers will report with their signed DD Form 1610 to their designated ROTC/Recruiting Station commander.

For more information, e-mail Van Hout or call him at (757) 788-3076 or DSN 680-3076 or visit www.usarec.army.mil.

Editor's note: Information provided by an ALARACT message on this subject.

DoD installs healthy life choices site

AFPS

WASHINGTON – Department of Defense is launching a new preventive healthcare program called Healthy Choices for Life, the department's senior medical adviser announced Jan. 26.

The purpose of the TRICARE-managed program is "to put information in the hands of individual servicemembers and family members so that they can change their behavior," said Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr.

The program will focus on persuading people to quit smoking, to moderate drinking habits and to exercise and lose weight in order to become and stay physically fit, he said.

Winkenwerder said about \$13 million has been budgeted to fund pilot programs over the next few years.

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Women in service see slow changes

Defense committee takes forefront in recommending actions needed

By Kathleen T. Rhem
AFPS

WASHINGTON – When Carol Mutter joined the Marine Corps nearly 40 years ago, women were not allowed to be admirals or generals and could make up no more than two percent of the U.S. armed forces.

The military changed a lot during her 31 years of service.

"The roles that women ... fulfill in the military have changed (and) evolved, and women have always been up to the task," she said Jan. 27 during an interview with the Pentagon Channel and American Forces Press Service.

"They've always responded very, very well to new roles, new challenges and so on. There've been a lot of changes. The theme I think has been evolutionary change (for women) in my time in the military," she said.

Since Mutter retired as a three-star general in 1999, she has done even more to help advance women's roles in the uniformed services.

Mutter fills chair since 2002

Since 2002, Mutter has been chairwoman of the Defense Department Advisory Committee on Women in the Services. In this role, she chairs a group that studies issues pertaining to women and families and makes annual

The Defense Department Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS) was established in 1951 by then-Secretary of Defense George C. Marshall. The committee is composed of civilian women and men appointed by the secretary of defense to provide advice and recommendations on matters and policies relating to the recruitment and retention, treatment, employment, integration, and well-being of highly qualified professional women in the Armed Forces.

Since 2002, the Committee also has provided advice and recommendations on family issues related to recruitment and retention of a highly qualified professional military.

recommendations to Department of Defense.

In 2004, DACOWITS members conducted 70 focus groups during visits to 12 military installations.

Their recommendations, based on findings from these focus groups, surveys and studies, focus on three main areas: retention – particularly of female officers with families, deployment issues and sexual assaults.

Regarding retention, Mutter said the committee found that the services are retaining women officers with families at lower rates than other groups.

The numbers vary among services and components, but the underlying theme with these officers not staying in the military is a problem with "work-life bal-

ance," she said.

In 2005, the committee will delve further into this issue and look more closely at specific items under the umbrella of work-life balance.

Committee may study childcare options

Specific issues for the committee to explore in 2005 might include more flexible childcare options and ways to add flexibility to career paths.

For instance, Mutter said, the Coast Guard offers certain members a two-year sabbatical to deal with family issues such as having a child or caring for an elderly parent.

Issues pertaining to deployments include ensuring military

members have sufficient time to spend with their families before deployment, plenty of opportunities for communicating with families during deployment and enough time to readjust to being part of a family after deployment.

"Communication is extraordinarily important," Mutter said.

She said the committee recommended that 100 percent of redeploying servicemembers undergo screening to identify possible readjustment problems after every deployment.

"It needs to be everybody – from private to general," she said. "Because if there are any exceptions, then people will opt out and there will be people who really need help who will not get that help," she said.

Mutter lauded the work of DoD's Task Force on Care for Victims of Sexual Assaults. In mid-2004, that task force released a 99-page report that included recommendations to help prevent sexual assaults within the military and provide the best possible care for victims.

"We applaud those recommendations and the actions that the department has taken since then to move toward implementing many of the recommendations," Mutter said. "There's a lot of good work that has been done."

Still, she added, more could – and should – be done to prevent sexual assaults within the military and to punish those who commit

such crimes.

Mutter said her committee recommended that all agencies within DoD agree to a single definition of sexual assault to ease reporting and data collecting and that the department issue a firm, clearly worded zero-tolerance policy on sexual assault.

"Zero tolerance against sexual assault needs to be a matter of formalized policy from the leadership in the Department of Defense and at every level of command all the way down to the lowest level," she said.

DoD must do better about confidentiality

DoD also needs to do a better job of ensuring confidentiality to victims, Mutter said, adding that this will ensure more people report crimes against them.

The general said the fundamental changes she's seen regarding women serving in the military have come slowly, but she thinks this is the right way to go about fundamental changes.

"It's been very much an evolutionary process," she said. "And I believe evolutionary change is more long-lasting change."

"If you can change it quick then it can be unchanged real quick, too. So if you do it in steps and make sure the steps are all implemented in a way that makes sense then it will be long-lasting change," she said.



Carol Mutter

Military experience included leadership positions in logistics, data processing, financial management, personnel administration, and research, development and acquisition.

Her non-military awards include: American Leadership Award from the state of Colorado and Living Legacy Patriot Award from the Women's International Center

She serves on the National Advisory Council of the Alliance for National Defense and the National Academy of Sciences Committee on American Youth Population and Military Recruiting

She is a senior fellow at the Joint Forces Staff College.

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POST SERVICE DIRECTORY



Museum project seeks war vets' stories

By Mike Heronemus

Editor

A local project aims to record an oral history of World War II through the experiences of Geary County residents.

Ron Harris, a volunteer at the Geary County Historical Society Museum, revived the oral history project planned some time ago and hopes to capture the stories of war veterans, local civilians who were part of the home-front war industry and even local farmers who had German or Italian prisoners of war held at Fort Riley working for them.

The historical society hopes to create a video library of those people's accounts of World War II. The stories will be taped at the museum by Junction City High School students or in personal homes or nursing homes by society volunteers. The videotapers will be trained in good interview techniques before the taping is done, Harris said.

The video library will be kept at the museum for use by future generations and for special museum displays, Harris said. None of the accounts will be used for profit ventures, he added. Part of the project's cost is being underwritten by the local American Legion chapter, he said.

Interviews will try to capture the person's life before his or her war experience, life during the war and what the person's life was like after the war, Harris said. Wartime artifacts brought to the interview will be included in the video, Harris said.

Members of the local American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars chapters are distributing biographical data forms to prospective interview subjects. Harris also mailed the forms to some World War II veterans he knows live in Geary County. He hopes to have those bio forms returned by Feb. 10.

Veterans and others with World War II stories they would like to have recorded for posterity can obtain forms from the museum.

People selected for the interviews also will be offered the opportunity to have their stories sent to the Library of Congress, Harris said. Anyone wishing to do that must fill out a Veteran's Release Form when the interview is taped.

Want to know more:

For more information on this project or to get bio data forms:

Visit the Geary County Historical Society Museum - Sixth and Adams Streets - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Call the museum - 238-1666.
Call the American Legion - 238-2432
Call the Veterans of Foreign Wars - 238-7511 or 238-4221

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By Bob Haskell

National Guard Bureau

ARLINGTON, Va. — The chief of the National Guard Bureau is bearing gifts of gold to some citizen-soldiers in the Army National Guard. The gold is in the form of substantial increases in enlistment and re-enlistment bonuses that Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum announced at the Pentagon Dec. 16. Some of the bonuses will be increased from \$5,000 to \$15,000.

The increased bonuses for this fiscal year are earmarked for new Guard Soldiers who have never served in uniform, for people who join the Army Guard after serving on active duty and for Guard Soldiers who agree to re-enlist for six years.

Blum promised many Army Guard Soldiers he met with during recent trips to Iraq and Afghanistan that he would be announcing the increased bonuses in December and that they would be impressed.

Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers make up nearly 40 percent of the 148,000 troops in Iraq, and 42,000 Guard Soldiers are serving

in Iraq and Kuwait, officials reported. Another 8,200 are serving in Afghanistan. Blum said about 100,000 Guard Soldiers have been on active duty at home or abroad at any given time since terrorists attacked the World Trade Center in New York City Sept. 11, 2001.

The increased bonuses represent one effort to improve the Army Guard's recruiting and retention efforts during the Global War on Terrorism and to build the Army Guard to its authorized

Mobilized National Guard, Reserves

The Army, Air Force, Marine Corps and Navy announced Jan. 19 an overall decrease in the number of reserve Soldiers on active duty in support of the partial mobilization, while the Coast Guard number remained the same.

The net collective result was 868 fewer reserve Soldiers mobilized than the previous week. At any given time, services may mobilize some units and individuals while demobilizing others, making it possible for these figures to either increase or decrease.

Total number on active duty as of Jan. 19 in support of the partial mobilization for the Army National Guard and Army Reserve was 162,857; Naval Reserve, 3,567; Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve, 11,928; Marine Corps Reserve, 13,188; and the Coast Guard Reserve, 967.

That brought the total number of National Guard and Reserve personnel who have been mobilized to 192,507, including units and individual augmentees.

strength of 350,000 troops.

The bonus increases for fiscal year 2005 include:

- An increase in enlistment bonuses from \$8,000 to \$10,000 for people without prior service who sign up for one of the Army Guard's top 10 military occupational specialties, such as the infantry, military police and transportation.

- An increase from \$5,000 to \$15,000 for prior service people who enlist in the Army Guard for six years.

- An increase in re-enlistment and extension bonuses from \$5,000 to \$15,000.

Guard Soldiers will receive a lump sum for re-enlisting. New Guard Soldiers joining the military for the first time and those with prior service will be given a 50-50 payment schedule.

The eligibility for receiving re-enlistment bonuses has been extended by two years. Guard Soldiers previously could not receive a bonus after 14 years of service. They are now eligible

through 16 years.

Blum has also promised to double the Student Load Repayment Program from \$10,000 to \$20,000.

Another effort is to add 1,400 recruiters to the Army Guard's national recruiting force - increasing it from 2,700 to 4,100 - by the end of March.

"We're in a more difficult recruiting environment," Blum told news reporters. "There's no question they when you have a sustained ground combat operation going that the Guard's participating in, that makes recruiting more difficult."

The National Guard Bureau chief also said that the Guard will change its recruiting message to more accurately reflect the fact that many citizen-soldiers are now pulling tours of duty overseas for at least a year.

"We are correcting, frankly, some of our recruiting themes and slogans to reflect the reality of today," Blum told The Washington Post. "We're not talking about one weekend a month and two weeks a year and college tuition. We're talking about service to the nation."

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Fort Riley Community Life

Friday, February 4, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Page 11

Community news briefly

Latino group plans skating

The Latino Organization will be hosting a family skating party from 3 to 5 p.m., Feb. 13 at the Junction City Roundabout skating rink. The event is open to the public. Cost is \$2 per person.

Thrift Shop plans events

The Post Thrift Shop, Building 267 on Stuart Avenue, will open for business from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 5. It will feature a \$2 bag sale and has a large assortment of sweaters, jeans, winter coats, boots and bedding.

The store is also open to the general public from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. No military ID is required. For more information, call 784-3874.

Riley's to host Valentine buffet

Military ID card holders can show their special someone they care by starting the Valentine's Day holiday with a special breakfast buffet from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 13 at Riley's Conference Center. Diners can help themselves to scrambled eggs, gash brown potatoes, bacon, sausage, French toast, carved ham, fruit, orange juice, coffee and hot tea. Cost is \$9 for adults and \$4.50 for children ages 3 to 12. Diners can pay at the door and reservations will not be necessary.

For more information, call Riley's Conference Center at (785) 784-1000.

Crafts center slates classes

Feb. 7 - 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., ceramic painting (musical hearts)

Feb. 7 - 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., stained glass

Feb. 7 - Wood safety

Feb. 8 - 6 to 9 p.m., introduction to matting and framing

Feb. 9 - 1 to 3 p.m., stained glass

Feb. 12 and 13 - 2 to 4 p.m., introduction to black and white photography.

For more information, call the Arts and Crafts Center at 239-9205.

Teen Center slates activities

Feb. 4 - 8 to 11 p.m., game room tournaments

Feb. 5 - 8 p.m. to midnight, Midnight Basketball

Feb. 11 - 8 to 10:30 p.m., middle school dance

Feb. 12 - 9 to 11:30 p.m., high school dance

For more information, call the Teen Center at 239-9222.

Youth Services sets activities

Feb. 4 - 4 to 5 p.m., Parent Advisory Council meeting

Feb. 5 - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., free child care for deployed Soldier's kids

For more information, call 239-9173.

Stay In Step with Fort Riley

See what's happening on Fort Riley cable Channel 8 every day at 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Luncheon honors CFC donors

By Jay Baker

Public affairs intern

Fort Riley recognized the work and large contributions of several people involved with the 2004 Combined Federal Campaign at a Jan. 25 luncheon at Riley's Conference Center.

Not all individuals who contributed attended the event, but two of the 42 individuals who

contributed more than \$500 were present to accept awards for their gifts. Representatives from 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, and the Dental Activity accepted awards for "highest dollar amount given" by an organization. The 1st Brigade contributed \$58,936 to lead the large organization category and 16 employees at DENTAC gave \$4,999, the most of any small

organization on post.

Two individuals, Capt. Moses Scheinfeld of 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, and Marvin Bethel of the Southwest Civilian Personnel Operations Center, received special awards for donating more than \$1,000 each to the campaign.

The local CFC conducts a fund raising campaign once a year to aid diverse charitable

organizations. The Fort Riley campaign raised \$172,000 during its September to November campaign last year. The money goes to more than 1,000 organizations that benefit from CFC assistance, said Dori N. Farrow, local CFC coordinator.

Twelve percent of the total collected at Fort Riley goes to local organizations such as the

See CFC, Page 12



Capt. Moses Scheinfeld



Marvin Bethel

Fun history

Kids learn about life in 'old' days

By Jay Baker

Public affairs intern

Children at Fort Riley Elementary School learned some interesting aspects of life during the early days of Fort Riley and Kansas during the Kansas Days event Jan. 28 at the school.

Fort Riley Elementary School has relied on visual and oral history classes to teach children about life when Kansas became a state on Jan. 29, 1861, for more than 20 years, said Leah B. Call, second-grade teacher and co-coordinator of the event. The school used storytellers, games and hands-on projects to create a learning environment.

"We let the children choose which things they are most interested in. The children chose five things they wanted to see from a long list of things available. They came together from different classes into rooms with activities such as a Kansas history game quiz, line dancing, butter churning, children's chores and farming," Call said. The children watched and participated in each class for 25 minutes and then changed rooms after a short intercom announcement.

"We began coordinating the event in October. I contacted the people who usually volunteer. Once I had a list of the activities, I passed the list out to all the teachers. The teachers sent information home to parents asking for additional volunteers. We ended up with 17 different activity rooms and about 32 volunteers," Call said.

Martina Crisp, a parent volunteer, jumped at the chance to share her knowledge with her child Sophie and her child's classmates. "I am new to this post and I don't know anything about Kansas history. I am from Germany and I was raised on a farm, so I do know about cutting wheat by hand and using the old machines," Crisp said.

In Crisp's room, children watched as she took strands of wheat, cut the top and pulled out the grain. Once Crisp had about 50 tiny grains in her hand, she demonstrated

See Kansas Day, Page 13



Children at Fort Riley Elementary School learn to do-si-do and promenade during line dancing demonstrations that were part of the school's Kansas Days observance recognizing the state's admission to the United States.

Post/Baker

Club plans varied events

Post's enlisted spouses work, play to help out

Staff report

Members of the Fort Riley Enlisted Spouses' Club plan to host a "Chocolate and Crafts Night" beginning at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 23 at the Armed Services YMCA, 111 E. 16th St. in Junction City.

The club serves the Fort Riley community and surrounding areas with volunteerism and charitable contributions as well as being a social outlet for active duty, reservist, retiree and widowed spouses of Soldiers in grades E-1 through E-9.

The club meets once a month, usually at 6:30 p.m. in the Armed Services YMCA. Childcare is provided on-site for most of the club's events.

Reservations for childcare can be made by calling Christine Cochran at 223-0924 no later than two days before the event. Childcare fees are on a donation-only basis.

Besides the upcoming "Chocolate and Crafts Night," the club has scheduled a "Pamper Me Night" in March, a Red Cross Baby Shower April 27 and a family picnic in May.

Club members will help the Red Cross with bingo at the Good Samaritan nursing home in Junction City from 1:15 to 3:15 p.m. Feb. 11 and July 8.

Helping with the bingo is one of the club's service projects in the community.

Plans also are being made to help with the annual spring craft fair on post and in April club members will be working on a mass donation to the Red

See Spouses' club, Page 12

Elementary readers earn roller skating party

School uses incentives to boost reading

By Austin Meek

Staff writer

Morris Hill Elementary students who met their accelerated reader requirements were rewarded with a skating party at Riley Wheels Skating Rink on Jan. 27.

Students who accomplished their AR goals for two of three reading periods were able to attend the party, Morris Hill librarian Jean Ann Linder said.

"The teacher and the student work together to set a goal for how many points they want to read in a period," Linder said.

"If students meet their goals consistently throughout the year,

we have incentives for them," she said.

Students earn points by reading books and taking comprehension tests, Linder said.

Morris Hill Principal Greg Lumb said the aim of the accelerated reading program is to provide students with motivation to read independently.

"Because (AR) is goal oriented, we find that it gets students enthused about reading," Lumb said. "The goal is to give them incentive to get started. Once they get started, we hope that reading will become an intrinsic value for them."

See Skating, Page 13

Rink available for parties

Anyone wishing to host a private party at Riley Wheels can contact Billy Mack at (785) 239-3764. Prices range from \$40 to \$70, depending on the size of the group. Riley Wheels has open skating from 8 to 10 p.m. on Fridays and from 6 to 10 p.m. on Saturdays. A family skate time is offered from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sundays.



Post/Meek

Morris Hill Elementary School advanced reading achievers (from left) Courtney Lenzer, Caitlyn Kelly, Ebony Monroe and Mason Holbert try their skill at a skating party they earned





Community news briefly

Rally Point sets activities

Feb. 4 – 5 to 8 p.m., Family Night with dinner buffet, family friendly movie and dancing

Feb. 5 – 11 p.m. to 4 a.m., Late Night with DJ Monroe

Feb. 6 – Super Bowl Party. Kickoff is at 5:25 p.m.

Feb. 9 – 5 to 9 p.m., 10-cent wings (dine in only). For more information, call 784-5434.

BOSS sets activities

Feb. 9 – 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Snow Creek, "Learn to Ski" free ski trip

Feb. 10 and 11 – Valentine Sing-A-Gram. Call ITR at 239-5614 to reserve deliveries (\$10 for a song, \$15 for a balloon and kissing bear, \$25 for a song, balloon, candy and picture frame)

For more information, call 239-8147.

Chapel Services



Kapaun Chapel:

- Youth Ministry's Gospel Youth, 7 p.m. Wednesdays
- Men's Bible study, 5:30 to 6:30 a.m. Thursdays
- Protestant Contemporary worship service, 11 a.m. Sundays
- Gospel Bible Study, 7 p.m. Wednesdays

St. Mary's Chapel:

- Youth Ministry's Club Beyond-JV; 5 to 6:30 p.m. Sundays September through May.
- Youth Ministry's Club Beyond, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Sundays September through May.
- Catholic Women Mass and meeting, 10 a.m. first Thursday of the month September through May.
- Catholic Mass, 11 a.m. Sundays
- Protestant Women of the Chapel 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Morris Hill Chapel:

- Youth Ministry's Catholic Youth Organization, Sundays September through May.
- Protestant Women of the Chapel, 9 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays
- RCIA (for anyone who wants to learn more about Catholic teachings and practices), 3 to 4:30 p.m. Sundays September through May
- Protestant Gospel worship service, 11 a.m. Sundays
- Catholic Mass, 9 a.m. Sundays
- Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession), 8 to 8:30 a.m. Sundays or anytime by appointment (239-4814).
- Protestant Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. September through May
- Catholic kindergarten through high school 9 a.m. after Mass Sundays September through May at Morris Hill Chapel and Fort Riley Middle School
- Catholic Children's Church, 9 a.m., during Sunday Mass
- Protestant worship service, 9:30 a.m. Sundays
- Lutheran worship service, 11 a.m. Sundays

Main Post Chapel:

- Protestant worship service (traditional), 10:30 a.m. Sunday
- Protestant Sunday school 9:15 a.m. September through May

Hospital Chapel:

- Mass, noon Monday through Thursday

Jewish religious services are available upon request. For more information, call the Installation Chaplain's Office at 239-3359.

Spouses' club continued from page 11

Cross/Mother's Outreach Program for Irwin Army Community Hospital.

Other projects and organizations the club supports include the Fort Riley Combined Scholarship Fund, sponsoring movie night during Military Family Appreciation Week, Operation Santa Claus, Red Cross Baby Layette Program, Project Graduation for Junction City and St.

Xavier High Schools, Ronald McDonald House of Topeka and the National Military Family Association.

Club President Sherri Miller said there are many reasons enlisted spouses should consider joining the club, including:

- Monthly membership meetings that always focus on food and fun
- Special members-only func-

tions like Crazy Hat Night at Rally's and bowling at Custer Hill Bowling Center.

• Meeting other great ladies who can relate to you

• Helping pass the time during the frequent deployments of Soldier spouses.

• Receive a monthly newsletter filled with information.

• Participate in an organization that focuses on giving back

to the Fort Riley community.

• Being involved in a great military tradition. Wives' clubs have been around for many years.

• Being fulfilled by volunteering.

For more information about the Enlisted Spouses' Club, call Miller at (785) 770-9219 or send her e-mail at escpresident@hotmail.com.

CFC continued from page 11

Geary and Riley County United Way, American Red Cross, YMCA, Food Pantry and Open Door, Farrow said. The remainder goes to national charities such as the American Cancer Society and Alzheimer's Foundation.

Soldiers and civilian employees contributed the \$172,000 mostly through payroll deductions. The amount donated exceeded the CFC's goal of \$150,000.

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Parent volunteer Colleen Wright shows children at Fort Riley Elementary School how to use a spinning wheel to change raw wool into yarn.



Jaylan Davis, Fort Riley Elementary 3rd grader gets the feel of a Union Army uniform during a hands-on history lesson during Kansas Days.

Kansas Day

continued from page 11

ed how it became flour, then how it became bread.

In her presentation, Crisp also used replica farm equipment to show the evolution of horse- and steam-driven machines to the combine. She explained how the combine saved time and made wheat farming much easier. At the end of her presentation, some children excitedly took their own wheat strand apart looking for the peanut (wheat grain) inside.

Crisp wasn't the only parent with relevant knowledge to share. Colleen Wright, a parent volunteer, showed her ability to turn wool into yarn using an old spinning wheel. For her presentation, Wright dressed in "olden days" attire, as did the other presenters. Representatives from the Geary County Historical Society

talked about the typical daily chores required of a child. The tasks weren't all that different from today, except for the butter churning, but the cleaning tools from the past were very different.

Back then, children used something that looked like two wire hangers intertwined and connected on one end with a wooden handle to beat dirt from a rug. The students looked amazed as they watched liquid poured into a Mason jar and churned into butter after a few minutes of turning a wheel connected to a wooden handle.

Another volunteer, Keith Teeter, who has a special interest in history, brought reproductions of Union and Confederate Civil War uniforms. He modeled the Rebel uniform he tailored as he

recreated the feeling of wearing the uniform and carrying personal equipment.

Crisp said, "I couldn't imagine how this could be organized when I first heard about it, but it is organized very well."

Principal Becky Lay said, "This helps children with learning in a different way. I am thankful to the community for sharing their stories, interests and passions with the children."

"We also have a career fair scheduled for later this year, and several volunteers will come to classes and talk to children about their jobs," she said. "We like to look for ways to learn by using the community."

Tax Center saves fees

Early refunds for 420 filers average \$2,900

By Jay Baker

Public affairs intern

The Fort Riley tax assistance office staff had helped 420 Soldiers get an average tax refund of \$2,900 this year, according to data available as of Jan. 21.

The Tax Center, located in Building 7264 and staffed with a Staff Judge Advocate tax attorney and several civilian tax preparation experts, helped more than 100 people per day file their federal and state tax returns since the office opened Jan 18.

"This command program is great for Soldiers. It saves each of them \$100 to \$200 in fees that a civilian sector agency would charge," said Capt. Jason Elbert, SJA tax attorney.

After the Tax Center representatives prepare a Soldier's tax returns, they file them electronically and set up direct deposit for a refund, if one is due.

The amount of a tax refund depends on individual circumstances. Soldiers and spouses should bring their original W-2s, previous year's tax returns and

state identification.

The Tax Center staff is prepared to file at least as many returns as the center handled last year. Last year, 3,800 returns were prepared, saving Soldiers \$676,236 in preparation and e-filing fees, Elbert said.

The Tax Center's hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Walk-in appointments are available, but for faster service, Elbert recommends scheduling appointments by calling 239-1040.

Skating

continued from page 11

Morris Hill Elementary School offers a variety of rewards for students who meet their AR goals, Lumb said.

"We've had bowling parties, ice cream sundae parties, dances and field trips," he said. "We try

to do a variety of things for the kids."

The skating party is very popular with the students, Linder said. "We've had the skating party for several years. The kids really enjoy it."

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Community news briefly

Golden Key gains members

Kansas State University's chapter of Golden Key, an international honor society, recently initiated 300 new members, including Stephanie Hicks and Leila Smith of Fort Riley.

Golden Key recognizes and encourages scholastic achievement and excellence in all undergraduate fields of study. Membership is by invitation only and eligibility is limited to the top 15 percent of junior and senior students.

Chapel needs musicians

The contemporary Protestant worship service is in need of a pianist, bass player and acoustic guitar player for its Sunday morning services in Kapaun Chapel on Custer Hill. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings.

Anyone interested should call Juanita Boudreaux at 784-2918.

Church group plans seminars

The Morris Hill Gospel Congregation sponsors marriage seminars on a periodic basis. The next seminars will begin at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 7 and 21 at Morris Hill Chapel. Future seminars will be conducted on the first and third Mondays of each month.

For more information, call Morris Hill Chapel at 239-4814.

Society seeks aid requests

The Historical & Archeological Society of Fort Riley is taking applications for its annual community assistance distributions. Applications are available by contacting Karen Higdon at 784-4044. Deadline for application submission is Feb. 15.

For more information, call Higdon or send her e-mail to kmhigdon@aol.com.

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Honeymoon couple picks Baghdad

Dual military couples share deployments rather than face separation

By Matthew McLaughlin
AFPS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — When Army 1st Lt. Mandy Nalls learned her husband, 1st Lt. Bill Nalls, would deploy to Iraq yet again, the newlyweds thought they would have to postpone their honeymoon. Instead they decided to celebrate their marriage in an unlikely vacation destination: Baghdad.

The Nalls are one of several couples deployed together with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division. Like all couples, they share their joys and pains of deployment — only they do it together.

"The worst part of a deployment is leaving your family," said Bill Nalls, originally from Knoxville, Tenn. "If I get to take my family with me, it is the best of both worlds."

The Nalls were separated by deployment before when Bill deployed to Afghanistan. Mandy Nalls knew she would deploy eventually as well, and they both desired to stay on the same deployment rotation.

Deploying together was not as easy as simply volunteering, however. They had to convince the brigade to create a slot for Mandy, a chemical officer originally from West Bath, Maine. They stated their case to Lt. Col. Michael J. Infanti, 2nd BCT deputy commander. Infanti sympathized with the couple and found a spot for Mandy as an assistant in the brigade personnel shop.

"We try to keep couples together when possible," Infanti said. "They wanted to volunteer and we needed soldiers. It made sense to keep them together."

The Nalls are not the only cou-



ANS McLaughlin
First Lt. Mandy Nalls, and her husband, 1st Lt. Bill Nalls, spend quality time at a dining facility in Baghdad. The Nalls are one of several Commando couples sharing a deployment.

ple that Infanti kept together on this deployment. Capt. Phil Radzikowski, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, and his wife, Capt. Josee Radzikowski, Headquarters Company, 2nd BCT, faced the same situation as the Nalls. Infanti said he was happy to take Josee, an engineer officer and native of Northampton, Mass., to Iraq as the brigade maintenance officer.

Unlike the Nalls and Radzikowskis, Staff Sgt. Christopher Webb and his wife, Sgt. Amanda Webb, both of Company D, 110th Military Intelligence Battalion, didn't have to worry about a lack of slots. Their only concern was whether to stay at home and eventually be deployed separately or to pull back-to-back deployments together.

Christopher was home for about 90 days and Amanda for less than 40 days when they vol-

unteered to deploy again.

"I was still used to being deployed when I left again," said Amanda, a Bethel, Alaska, native.

"Our sergeant major point blank told us that he can't guarantee we stay together (if not deployed)," said Christopher, a Colorado Springs, Colo., native. "One way to guarantee that we stay together is to go back to Iraq."

All three couples said having their spouse deployed with them is a very welcome substitute to deployments apart.

The Nalls, like many deployed spouses with 2nd BCT, share a one-room trailer together that creates a cozy, at-home feeling, they said.

The Webbs shared living quarters until Christopher was tasked to provide intelligence support for 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, at Forward Operating Base Justice, a smaller base near Camp Liberty. The comforts of a one-room trailer provided a small piece of home to the couple, both said.

"We would go to eat, watch movies," Christopher said. "It's not dissimilar to what we did at home."

The Nalls also feel at home in their living quarters. Some things are even too much like home, Mandy said. "I get to do the laundry, the dishes, mop the floor," she said smiling. "It's like our apartment back home. Nothing's changed."

The Nalls see each other

almost daily. They eat meals, work out and spend any free time together.

Shared living quarters are not an option for all married Soldiers, however. The Webbs and Radzikowskis are less fortunate, but still cherish the time they get to spend together.

Phil Radzikowski and Christopher Webb work out of Forward Operating Base Justice, near Camp Liberty. Both try to spend time with their wives when they make trips back.

"Lots of people think 'Oh, if I can have my wife over here it would be great,'" Josee Radzikowski said. "But we work long hours. I understand he has to work; he understands I have to work."

Despite any problems deployments may bring, all the couples agreed they would rather have it this way.

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Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Friday, February 4, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Page 15

Sports news in brief

Strike Zone offers specials

For a limited time only, the Strike Zone at Custer Hill Bowling Center will be offering Wednesday Night Specials between 5 and 8 p.m. These deals will go away when Rally Point's kitchen reopens.

Specials include a mini-slice of cheese pizza and small soda for \$1. Patrons can bowl for \$1 per person per line on Wednesdays.

For more information, call Custer Hill Lanes at (785) 239-4366.

Women's hoop season opens

Registration is open for the Fort Riley Community Life Sports Program basketball teams. The program is open to all female family members of active duty and retired military, as well as Department of Army civilians, contractors and AAFES employees working on Fort Riley. Participants must be at least 18 years old to play. Registration is \$50 per team. For more information, call 239-3764.

Army seeking women players

Applications for participation in the 2005 All Army Women's Soccer program are due to the morale, welfare and recreation program manager of the Installation Management Agency's Northwest Regional Office by March 1.

All-Army Sports is looking forward to recruiting an outstanding team to compete in the 2005 Women's Armed Forces Soccer Championship. Application information is available on the Army MWR Web site at www.armymwr.com.

Player selection criteria include the strength of the submitting player's resume, prior selection to All-Army teams, prior selection to armed forces teams, the highest level of school competition, exceptional awards, prior coaches' recommendations and current All-Army team's coaches' recommendations in collaboration with the All-Army sports specialist selecting official.

For more information, call DSN 793-8796 or (309) 782-8748.

Sports office, pools set events

Upcoming events and programs sponsored by the Fort Riley Sports Office and post pools include:

Feb. 4 - 7 to 10 p.m., Friday Family Fun Night at Long Fitness Center pool. Cost is \$5 per family and \$1 per guest, passes not included.

Feb. 7 and 10 - 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., cardio pump aerobics class at King Field House.

Feb. 7 and 11 - Post battalion level racquetball.

Feb. 9 - 9 to 11 a.m., Mommy & Me Time at Long Fitness Center pool. Cost is \$2 per family.

For more information, call 239-2813.

Eagle viewing trip planned

A free bald eagle watching tour is planned on Fort Riley on from 1 to 4 p.m. Feb. 19. Call the Outdoor Recreation Center at (785) 239-2363 for more information and to register for the tour.

Army names top athletes

By Tim Hipps
Army News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va. - The Army's male and female athletes of the year were selected Jan. 19 during a ceremony at the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center, headquarters of the Army's Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

Maj. Michael Anti was named 2004 Army Male Athlete of the Year, and Maj. Heidi Grimm and Capt. Anita Allen were named co-winners of the Army's Female Athlete of the Year award.

The awards will be presented Feb. 17 during the Association of the U.S. Army's Winter Symposium in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Anti, 40, of Winterville, N.C., won a silver medal in men's 50-meter three-position rifle shooting in the 2004 Olympics Games at Markopoulo Olympic Shooting Centre in Athens, Greece. A three-time Olympian, he also finished 24th in the men's 50-meter free-rifle prone shooting in the Athens Games. Grimm, 37, of Rochester,

N.Y., won gold medals in the 2004 Armed Forces Triathlon Championships at Naval Base Ventura, Calif., and the 2004 Conseil International du Sport Militaire Triathlon Championships at Belfort, France.

She also was the first U.S. military female finisher in the 2004 Ironman Triathlon World Championships at Kailua-

See *Athletes*, Page 17



USAFSC Public Affairs/Hipps
Maj. Michael Anti (left), displays his Olympic silver medal in men's 50-meter three-position rifle shooting alongside gold medalist Zhanbo Jia of China (center) and bronze medalist Christian Planer of Austria.

'Touch' slapped

Short MEDDAC team prevails

By April Blackmon
Staff writer

Medical Department Activity defeated Touch of Grey 44-26 Jan. 26 in Southern League company level basketball play at King Field House.

"Considering we didn't have our primary point guard and ball handlers, the fact that we got the ball across half court was a miracle in itself," said MEDDAC Coach Alexis Holbert.

Teddy Custard led the Medics' first-half charge with 10 points and Patrick Skull added seven. Touch of Grey's Luke Woltering kept his team in the game with eight of the team's 15 first-half points.

Up 24-15 at the end of the first half, the Medics continued to increase their lead over Touch of Grey. Custard added eight points to his team's score in the second half while Skull added two more points.

Shots weren't falling for Touch of Grey, who managed just 11 points total in the second half. Woltering was kept to just two points.

Touch of Grey's Tim Hanson and Matt Veldey scored six points each. MEDDAC's Sean Gillespie scored seven, Gary Ream scored four and Melvin Sims added three.



Post/Blackmon
MEDDAC player Damus Cox (15) snags the ball while Touch of Grey's Matt Veldey (10) and Luke Woltering (44) come up to defend the goal in the Jan. 26 MEDDAC victory.



Post/Blackmon
MEDDAC player Gary Ream (right) fights Touch of Grey players Matt Veldey (center) and Luke Woltering for the ball while Touch of Grey player Jeffrey Buczkowski (31) looks on.

Knights slate tough season

Head coach likes Point's independency

Army News Service

WEST POINT, N.Y. - Five teams that qualified for postseason bowl games last season and seven squads with winning records a year ago highlight Army's 2005 football schedule, the Black Knights' first Independent slate since 1997, it was announced Jan. 28 by Director of Athletics Kevin Anderson.

The 11-game schedule includes four schools hailing from Bowl Championship Series conferences, three of which earned bowl bids in 2004.

Only two of the opponents on Army's 2005 slate finished this past season with less than five victories, while the combined overall record from last season for the 11 teams included on the Black Knights' 2005 schedule reads an impressive 73-54 (.575).

All four teams on the slate that earned postseason bowl berths last fall won those contests. The team's 2005 opponents include two schools from the Big 12 Conference, two from the Mountain West, two from the Mid-American, one from the Big East and one from the Atlantic Coast.

Six games at Michie Stadium are featured on the ledger, including a season long four-game homestand that stretches from mid-September through mid-October.

Additionally, the Black Knights will battle service academy foes Air Force in Colorado Springs and Navy in Philadelphia.

Army's six-game home schedule includes dates with New

See *Academy*, Page 17



Post/Heronemus
Michael Wilkerson (32) squeezes through a gaggle of Junction City Middle School defenders to attempt a layup Jan. 27 on the Fort Riley Middle School court. Jermaine Byrd (45) moves in to impede one Wildcat's effort to reach Wilkerson.

Wildcats scratch Troopers

D team scores only Fort Riley school victory

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Junction City Middle School's Wildcats handed Fort Riley Middle School's Troopers three losses in a four-game slate on the Troopers' court Jan. 27.

The Troopers' D team posted the only home team victory with a 35-33 score. The A team lost 58-24, the B team lost 59-17 and the C team lost 55-23.

Larry Mitchell led the D team Troopers with 12 points in the second half comeback. The Troopers were down 17-12 after two periods, but tied the game

after three periods and edged out the visiting Junction City team 10-8 in the final period.

Michael Wilkerson added seven points in the second half effort for the Troopers. Scott Jeffreys and Doni Hancock added five points apiece during the game.

Paul Freeman and William Troy rounded out the Troopers' scoring with four and two points, respectively.

Andy Birchmeier led Trooper scoring for the A team with three points in the first half and 10 more in the second half.

Caleb Poppert and Collin

Reese added four points apiece to the Trooper tally. Devin Dickens hit a field goal for two more and Forika McDougald added a free throw.

The Troopers trailed by 20 at the end of the first half and trailed the Wildcats 22-12 in the second half offensive games.

The Wildcats' B team ran the Troopers ragged throughout their game, especially in the second period. The Troopers failed to hit a basket in the second stanza while the Wildcats netted 19. The Wildcats scored in double digits in the other three periods while

See *Troopers*, Page 16





NHRA photo

Angelle Sampey, U.S. Army Pro Stock Motorcycle driver and three-time Pro Stock Motorcycle world champion, prepares for one of her many races in 2004.

Motorcycle team breaks mark

By Chris Dirato
Army News Service

BRADENTON, Fla. - The U.S. Army Pro Stock Motorcycle team, with drivers Angelle Sampey and Antron Brown, broke the magical seven-second mark in pre-season testing Jan. 25 at Bradenton Motorsports Park.

Sampey, who is a three-time Pro Stock Motorcycle world champion, recorded a 6.989-second pass at 189.70 mph, before Brown posted a 6.995-second jaunt at 190.35 mph.

"We realize this is just a pre-season test session, but it was pretty darn cool to see both of them get below seven seconds,"

said Steve Tartaglia, who recently assumed the crew chief duties for the U.S. Army team. "This is something that's never been done before, so we're all pretty pumped up."

Tartaglia credited superb weather conditions in helping Sampey and Brown get down the track the way they did.

"The conditions were pretty awesome," he added. "The temperatures have been pretty cool here. Frankly, we probably should be going a little quicker."

The U.S. Army team planned to continue testing in Bradenton until Jan. 26 with hopes of improving the best elapsed time to 6.950-seconds.

"There's definitely room for improvement," said Tartaglia. "Neither of those sub-seven second runs was particularly stellar. We'll just keep working on it."

Sampey and Brown finished second and third, respectively, in the Pro Stock Motorcycle point standings last year.

While the 2005 NHRA POWERade Drag Racing Series season starts in Pomona, Calif., Feb. 10-13, the Pro Stock Motorcycles don't hit the track for the first time until the Mac Tools Gatornationals in Gainesville, Fla., March 17-20.

Editor's note: The article was provided by U.S. Army NHRA Racing.

KSU men revive chance Wildcats face Colorado on Bramlage court

By Austin Meek
Staff writer

After starting 1-3 in conference play, Kansas State University has rattled off two straight victories to climb back into the thick of the Big 12 race.

K-State held off Iowa State 63-51 on Jan. 26 at Bramlage Coliseum. Three days later, the Cats downed Missouri 63-53 at Miz-zou Arena.

Jeremiah Massey came up big in the second half of both games. Against Missouri, he scored 15 of his 17 points after halftime. Against Iowa State, Massey's one-handed slam gave K-State the momentum for good with just under five minutes remaining. Massey finished the game with 23 points, 19 of those coming in the second half.

"Jeremiah's a big key," said Coach Jim Woodridge following the Iowa State game. "He gave us the offense we needed down the stretch to win the game."

Massey was named the Phillips 66 Big 12 Player of the Week after his performances against Iowa

State and Missouri. He ranks seventh in the Big 12 in scoring, averaging more than 17 points per game in conference play.

Massey also is seventh in field goal marksmanship, connecting on 57 percent of his shots from the field.

Outside shooting was another key for K-State in its two victories. Missouri and Iowa State went a combined 7-for-43 from behind the 3-point line, while the Wildcats were 13-for-29. K-State ranks as the best 3-point shooting team in the Big 12, hitting more than 47 percent of its 3-point shots in conference play. The next closest team, Kansas, has hit 39 percent.

Sophomore swingman Cartier MK-State plays at home on Feb. 5 against the Colorado Buffaloes (10-8, 2-5).

Colorado features one of the league's top freshmen in guard Richard Roby. Roby is among the Big 12 leaders in scoring, field-goal percentage and 3-pointers.

Tip-off is set for 12:30 p.m. The game will be televised on ESPN+. Affiliates of the Mid-

America Sports Network, including 101.5 FM, will air the radio play-by-play.

The K-State women also play at home Feb. 5. The Wildcats (16-3, 7-1) will take on Oklahoma State (6-11, 1-6) with tip-off set for 5 p.m. at Bramlage Coliseum.

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Troopers

continued from page 15

the Troopers' best effort came in the third quarter with eight points.

Zach Birchmeier and Randy Moss scored four points apiece for the Troopers, followed by Gary Wright, Cameron Edwards, Thomas Miskevish and McDougald with two each and Xavier Matthews with one.

The Wildcats' offense racked up scores in double figures in each period of the C team game while Fort Riley's squad's best show was eight points in the third quarter.

Armogen Walker led the Troopers' scoring effort with eight points (five in the first period and

three in the third period).

Jermaine Byrd added six points for the Troopers.

Justin Ramos scored four, Josh Montgomery hit a trey in the third quarter and Chris Jackson-Smith added two points in the second quarter to round out Fort Riley scoring.

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Academy

Hampshire, Baylor, Iowa State, Connecticut, Central Michigan and Massachusetts.

Black Knights play home opener Labor Day Weekend

The Black Knights will open their 2005 campaign on Sept. 3 with a home date against New Hampshire on Labor Day weekend.

The Wildcats are coming off an outstanding season in which they posted a 10-3 record and advanced to the quarterfinals of the Division I-AA playoffs. It will mark the earliest season opener in Army history and the earliest since the Black Knights began the 2000 campaign versus Cincinnati Sept. 4.

Army will renew its rivalry with eastern foe Boston College the following week, traveling to Chestnut Hill, Mass., on Sept. 10. It will mark the 35th meeting between the longtime combatants, the first since 2001 and the first with the Eagles holding membership in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

BC, which defeated North Carolina 37-24 in the 2004 Continental Tire Bowl, is set to join the ACC this fall.

The Black Knights will begin their four-game homestand Sept. 17 when they host Baylor at Michie Stadium. The teams have met twice with the last skirmish dating back to 1979.

Army has not played a team that currently holds membership in the Big 12 Conference since squaring off against Kansas State in 1987, but the Black Knights will take on another school from that same BCS conference the next week when they host Iowa State.

The Cyclones authored a 7-5 record last season, tied for the championship of the Big 12 Conference's North Division and defeated Miami (Ohio) 17-13 in the Independence Bowl.

Army faces Connecticut for third straight year

Army and Connecticut will square off for the third consecutive season Oct. 1 when the Huskies visit West Point for the second time in three years.

Connecticut posted an 8-4 record in its first season as a member of the Big East Conference last fall and earned an invitation to the Motor City Bowl, where the Huskies routed Toledo 39-10.

The Black Knights will conclude their four-game homestretch seven days later for a Homecoming appearance opposite Central Michigan Oct. 8. It

will mark the first meeting between the two schools and the first of two MAC opponents for the Black Knights.

A challenging three-game road swing awaits the Black Knights with dates at TCU (Oct. 15) and Akron (Oct. 22) rounding out the month of October. Army has battled the Horned Frogs under the guise of Conference USA each of the last four years.

Like Army, TCU will be departing C-USA this season, when it gains membership in the Mountain West Conference.

The Black Knights and Zips have collided twice previously, with both meetings dating back to the early 1990s. Akron registered a 6-5 record last fall and qualified for postseason play.

Following a week off, the Black Knights open November by beginning their quest for the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy with a visit to Air Force on Nov. 5.

Army will close out its home slate the following week, hosting Massachusetts in what will rank as just the second pairing between the schools. The Black Knights posted a 34-10 victory over the Minutemen in the teams' only previous match-up in 1977.

The Black Knights will conclude their 116th season of intercollegiate play on Dec. 3 when Army battles its arch rival, Navy, at Philadelphia's Lincoln Financial Field. It will stand as the 106th edition of the time-honored pairing, the third Army-Navy game to be held at "The Line," and the 79th classic to be played in the city of Philadelphia.

Head coach excited about independent schedule

"I like the schedule," said Head Coach Bobby Ross. "I think it's a very good one. There's a good balance of football teams on it. We're playing four teams that went to bowl games last year, and all of them are very formidable foes. Our people did a remarkable job of putting together a very competitive schedule considering the fact that this will be our first year as an independent."

"I'm excited about our return to independent status. We're a national school. We should not be restricted to playing in a certain area of the country like we were with the conference affiliation. I'm looking forward to playing an independent schedule. Ultimately, I like a good, tough schedule. I'm very excited about it."

Kickoff times for all Army home games are tentatively set for 1 p.m.

Starting times for all road contests will be released at a later date.

Classified
4 x 21.25"
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Athletes

continued from page 15

Kona, Hawaii, with a time of 11 hours, 31 minutes and 5 seconds in the 24-mile swim, 112-mile bike and 26.2-mile run.

Grimm also finished second in her age group in the 2004 Army 10-Miler at Arlington, Va.

Allen, 27, of Star City, Ind., finished 18th in women's modern pentathlon in the Olympic Games at Goudi Olympic Complex in Athens, Greece. The highlight of her five-sport performance was a first-place ride in the equestrian show-jumping event. She solidified her Olympic berth by winning the women's modern pentathlon in the 2003 Pan American Games at Santo Domingo,

Dominican Republic.

Anli, who trains with the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit at Fort Benning, Ga., and Allen, stationed at Fort Carson, Colo., are members of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program. Grimm is stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash.

In addition to their athletic endeavors, the Soldiers' military accomplishments and community service were considered during the selection process.

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Travel & Fun in Kansas

Page 16

America's Warfighting Center

Friday, February 4, 2005

Leisuretime ideas

At the movies:

The Barlow Post Theater
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Shows begin at 7 p.m. unless
otherwise noted. Admission is
\$3.50 for adults, \$1.75 for
children 5 to 11 years old and
free for children under age 5,
except during children's matinees
or expected sell-outs.

Feb. 4 - Meet the Fockers
(PG-13)

Feb. 5 - The Life Aquatic
with Steve Zissou (R)

Feb. 6 - Meet the Fockers
(PG-13)

Feb. 10 - The Life Aquatic
with Steve Zissou (R)

Feb. 11 - White Noise (PG-
13)

For more information, call
784-2226 or 784-2640.

Manhattan:

What: "The Shape of
Things." This contemporary
story of love and art set in a
college town follows the intensi-
fying relationship between
two students.

When: 8 p.m. Feb. 10-12
and Feb. 16-19

Where: Nichols Theater on
the Kansas State University
campus

Admission: \$11 for general
public, \$7 for students and
senior citizens, groups of 10 or
more may receive a discounted
rate.

Phone: (785) 532-6857

What: National Acrobats of
Taiwan. Everything in the
room is up for grabs as these
master clowns and jugglers
tumble and roll their way
across the stage.

When: 8 p.m. Feb. 11
Where: McCain Auditori-
um

Phone: (785) 532-6428

Admission: Varies

Wamego:

What: "Camping with
Henry & Tom." It's 1921 and
President Harding wants to be
with his mistress. Industrialist
Henry Ford wants to be Presi-
dent, and inventor Thomas
Edison wonders how the three
of them ever got stuck in the
woods together. This Off-
Broadway hit is a hilarious
adventure with surprising rele-
vance to today's politics.

When: Feb. 11-13, Feb. 17-
20 and Feb. 24-27; Thursday,
Friday and Saturday buffet at
6 p.m. with performance at
7:30 p.m.; Sunday buffet at
12:30 p.m. with performance
at 2 p.m.

Where: The Columbian
Theatre, 521 Lincoln

Cost: Adult buffet \$17.13
(tax included), show \$17.66
(tax included)

Phone: (800) 899-1893

Wichita:

What: Sports Museum
Exhibit. Full collection of
sports memorabilia, and
celebrities.

When: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday through Saturday and
noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 1-
28

Where: 835 E. First Street,
Museum of World Treasures

Phone: (316) 263-1311

Web site: www.worldtreas-
ures.org

Admission: Adults \$9.90;
seniors \$6.90; youth \$5.90

What: Family Fun Fair.

Bundle up the family and
enjoy children's crafts and a
winter tour of the gardens.

When: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Feb. 5

Where: 701 Amidon,
Botanica, The Wichita Gar-
dens

Phone: (316) 264-0448

Web site: www.botanica.
org

Admission: Free

It's about life



Sadie Delany, played by Patricia Lemons (left), recalls a humorous story about her sister Bessie, played by Montika Allen-Atkinson, during rehearsal for the upcoming Junction City Little Theatre dinner theater production of "Having Their Say."

Play reveals sisters' century

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Two black centenarians tell their lives' story Feb. 11 and 12 when Kansas' oldest community theater group, the Junction City Little Theatre, presents its 286th production, "Having Our Say, The Delany Sisters' First 100 Years."

The theater's third production of this year's season is a dinner show at the Junction City Convention Center with dinner served at 7 p.m. and the show starting at 8 p.m.

The show is directed by Margaret Kilpatrick who has been with the Junction City Little Theatre Group the past few years, working a couple of productions each year. Her last effort was with "Raisin in the Sun." As director of "Having Our Say," Kilpatrick finds the characters to be the most intriguing aspect of the play.

"It's a real life story about two sisters who lived to be 104 and 107. They credit their long lives to not getting married," she said.

The real-life sisters, Sarah and Elizabeth, better known as Sadie and Bessie

If you go:

Cost is \$20 per person (\$10 for dinner and \$10 for the show).

Reservations and payment must be made 72 hours before the first show.

For show and dinner reservations, call 238-6220 or visit the convention center adjacent to the Courtyard by Marriott hotel off East Chestnut Street near Wal-Mart.

Delany, are played by a newcomer to the Junction City stage, Patricia Lemons, and Montika Allen-Atkinson, who also was in last year's production of "Raisin in the Sun."

Lemons has a daughter and son-in-law stationed at Fort Riley. Her son-in-law is in Iraq now and her daughter recently returned from Iraq. Allen-Atkinson's husband is stationed at Fort Leavenworth, where he is a social worker at the hospital

there.

The Emily Mann play is based on the best-selling book written by the sisters with Amy Hill Hearth. The play also had a run on Broadway.

Kilpatrick said she is intrigued by the sisters. "The characters are really great. They are two old feisty women who say what they think," she said.

What they say on stage reveals their life experiences while they are preparing to celebrate their father's birthday. They talk about the effects of slavery in the South, the invention of the automobile, the telephone and the computer age.

Their dialogue reveals "more than we ever could have known about blacks growing up in the last century and a half," wrote Sandy Wong in the play's advertising brochure.

The play relies on a continual dialogue between the sisters, including a lot of history and dialect, Kilpatrick said, so it is recommended for audiences ranging from middle school age up. "With all the history and dialect, we thought the audience would like more," Kilpatrick said about turning it into a dinner theater production.

Lt. Dan Band to play for vets

Special to the Post

Gary Sinese, who played Lt. Dan in the movie "Forrest Gump," and the Lt. Dan Band will perform in a concert at 8 p.m. Feb. 25 in the Uptown Theatre in Kansas City, Mo., for servicemembers who fought in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle.

The three-hour concert, with R. Lee Emery - "Gunny on the History Channel and Military Channel - serving as master of ceremony is a thank you and recognition for those servicemembers' service and the sacrifices of their families.

The concert is hosted by the Unmet Needs Program of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and a limited number of tickets are available free on a first come, first served basis.

Bonded sitters will be available to care for children at no charge.

Two free tickets are available to admit one servicemember and his or her guest. To request tickets, send a e-mail to johnkerr@kerr.net before Feb. 15.

If you go:

VFW National Headquarters is located at 406 W. 34th St., Kansas City, Mo. The Uptown Theater is located at 3700 Broadway, Kansas City, Mo.

From Fort Riley: Take Interstate 70 east to Interstate 71 in Kansas City, Mo.

Take I-71 south to the 31st Street/Linwood exit. This exit services both streets.

Take Linwood left (west) to Broadway. The VFW is on the southwest corner of Linwood and Broadway with the entrance on 34th Street.

Take Broadway left (south) to 3700 Broadway.

Parking is available in the parking lot across from the Uptown Theater.

For more information, call Pat Rowe Kerr at (316) 522-4220.

Got an idea for a travel story? Call the editor at 239-8854. Let's talk.

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